

OPINION

Heat can deliver a quick bite to trapped pooches

Please don't leave your dog in the car this summer — even for a few minutes

Imagine being locked in your car on a hot summer day. As the minutes slowly pass by, your heart begins to pump faster and perspiration and general discomfort from the suffocating surroundings gradually increase.

Dehydration begins to set in as you sit roasting in the enclosed vehicle, with no idea when relief will come.

Not exactly a pleasant scenario, is it?

So why do so many people put their supposedly beloved dogs in just such a situation every summer?

"We gets calls about this almost every day. It's mind-boggling," said Oakville and District Humane Society executive director Johanne Golder this week, offering a reminder of the dangers inherent with leaving dogs in cars in the summer.

And according to Golder, the all-too-common response of 'I just left 'em out here for a few minutes' simply isn't acceptable.

"Just a few minutes is all it takes for a car to turn into an oven, even with the window cracked," she explained.

Of course most owners don't mean to put their animal in harm's way, but that's pretty much what happens when a dog is left car-bound for any length of time.

"Dogs can and do die from being left in the heat like that," Golder stressed. "They don't sweat like we do, so they can bake pretty quickly."

As an alternative to this negligent exercise, might we suggest one family member stay behind and walk the dog around the parking lot while the other run in to the grocery store or shopping mall. Or why not do all your errands and then go pick up your dog before heading out on that lengthy road trip?

That shouldn't be too much to ask for what many claim is a member of the family.

On a related note, dog owners should take along some extra water on those long summer walks. After all, if you start to feel low on fluids, chances are your furry friends in the same boat.



ReadersWrite

E-mail your letters to miltoneid@haltonsearch.com.

Town council's refusal to adopt a pesticides bylaw simply a shame

DEAR EDITOR:

With the exception of an enlightened few councillors — Rick Day, Colin Best and Wendy Schau — and in spite of overwhelming evidence presented from sources which we all count on like the College of Family Physicians, Registered Nurses Association and Canadian Cancer

Society, Milton council has voted against implementing a pesticide bylaw.

This is despite the fact that the cost of the program, as documented in the report of the Town Clerk, is about the cost of a cup of coffee for each person in Milton per year.

It appears that council prefers to:

• see BAD on page A7

Aroundtown

Becoming a Miltonian, part two; the honeymoon phase

Right now I'm in the "honeymoon" phase — of both my marriage and my time in Milton — and I couldn't be enjoying it more.

It's been a month since I first became a Hounsell, and two weeks since I became a true Miltonian, and I'm still wearing the proverbial rose-coloured glasses when it comes to this town.

For some reason, all I can see is the good.

Although I've been working in Milton five days a week for the past four years, I realize all the more that's not the same as living here.

Now, I'm not going to suggest Milton — as charming as it is — can compete with a Caribbean cruise, complete with all-you-can-eat everything and top-notch pampering.

And yes, it was a bit of a rude awakening when I returned from my post-wedding vacation back to reality.

But I can't complain.

Milton really is a wonderful town, and I've been exploring every nook and cranny, particularly within the downtown core.

Let's see, I've covered the farmers' market, several restaurants, walks to the Mill Pond... They even had a party to welcome me back — the 150th anniversary street party, that is — as well as a byelection in my ward, which I'm sure they timed with my move.

Unfortunately, what also seemed timed with my move was the unfortunate moving out of my favourite coffee shop, Espresso Yourself on Main Street.

It's too bad, since I was looking forward to being within walking distance of my favourite java stop.

As you can see, I'm passionate about

Milton's downtown. Downtowns are what make small towns small towns.

One of my favourite nighttime activities is to go out walking on Main Street with my new husband after the summer heat has died down and then grab an ice cream cone from Jay's Ice Cream.

For me, these past few weeks have been all about the simple — i.e., cheap — pleasures in life.

I heartily encourage residents to borrow my rose-coloured glasses for a bit and see Milton as a newcomer. Turn a blind eye for a little while to traffic issues, growth problems and other annoyances, and instead enjoy all that Milton has to offer.

You won't be sorry.



Stephanie Hounsell

The Canadian Champion
Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860

555 Industrial Dr.,
Milton, Ont. L9T 5E1

905-878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943
Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364

Classified: 905-875-3300

Circulation: 905-878-5947

www.miltoncanadianchampion.com

Publisher
Neil Oliver

Advertising Director
Wendy McNab

Managing Editor
Karen Miceli

Production Manager
Tim Coles

Circulation Manager
Charlene Hall

Office Manager
Teri Casas

The Canadian Champion, published every
Tuesday and Friday, is a division
of Metroland Media Group Ltd. —
Group Publisher Ian Oliver.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB Audited

Recognized for excellence by

Ontario Community Newspapers Association

Canadian Community Newspapers Association

Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

Halton Healthcare

Child Find
ONTARIO

WELCOME WAGON
SINCE 1940

THE SALVATION ARMY

MILTON
CANADA DAY

Jingle Bell Fund

UNITED WAY OF MILTON

Helping Your Life
Make your life better

TV AUCTION

MILTON
SANTA CLAUS
PARADE

MILTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

MCRC

YMCA
OF GAILLARD

ATHENA Awards

The Oakville, Milton

MILTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Showcase Milton
More than a Home and Lumber Show!

MILTON FOOD BANK

MILTON GALA Awards

FAO
FOODS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product